

IN RECOGNITION OF ROSELLA  
PURCELL ON HER 100TH BIRTHDAY

**HON. JAHANA HAYES**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 28, 2020*

Mrs. HAYES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Rosella Purcell, of Southbury, Connecticut, who will celebrate her 100th birthday on March 27, 2020.

Ms. Purcell is the third youngest of four children born to Rose and Jeffrey Donahue. While her older brothers, John and Joseph, have passed away, her "kid brother" Jeff is just as healthy as his older sister at the youthful age of 96. The two of them still enjoy their conversations on the phone talking about their memories of growing up in Danbury, Connecticut, and raising their families that now spread across four generations.

During World War II, Ms. Purcell was a first lieutenant in United States Army, serving as a nurse at Fort Devens, Massachusetts. In 1951, she married James Purcell, a veteran who served in the Atlantic Theater in General George S. Patton's Third Army. Together they raised three children: Jay, Rosemary, and John. In addition to her children, Ms. Purcell has four grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren.

Memories abound for the Purcell family of family gatherings, most notably at Misquamicut Beach in Westerly, Rhode Island, where they have vacationed regularly for the past 60 years. There, her children and grandchildren would spend hours on their bikes or in the ocean riding waves, playing endless games in the backyard of the family beach cottage, and riding the merry-go-round at Watch Hill hoping to capture the elusive gold ring.

When asked what makes Ms. Purcell such a special lady, family members will say her faith, sense of humor, and sincerity. While she has dealt with hardships in recent years, she remains steadfast to her faith—a faith that continues to guide her through each day and passing night. To this day, Ms. Purcell remains in good health and her mind is as sharp as ever.

It is amazing to think about the history that Ms. Purcell has witnessed in her 100 years, from the Great Depression and World War II, to Neil Armstrong's first step on the moon and so many other events that have shaped the 20th and 21st centuries. However, what means the most to Ms. Purcell are the family members who will gather together to celebrate her 100th birthday and her family members who are no longer with us.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in extending warmest wishes to Ms. Purcell for a happy birthday and continued good health. I would also like to thank her for her service to our country.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MARTHA  
D. (PATSY) WHITE

**HON. JARED HUFFMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 28, 2020*

Mr. HUFFMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in memory of Martha D. (Patsy) White,

who passed away on November 19, 2019, at the age of 90 after a lifetime of public service to her community.

Born in 1929, in New York City, Ms. White spent much of her childhood with her parents in Italy and France, where her father was working prior to World War II. Later, she attended school in Boston, where she graduated high school and later from Colby Junior College in New Hampshire in 1948. She later moved to San Francisco where she met husband Peter when he was stationed with the Army in Monterey. They soon married and had two children Cordie (Cornelia) and David, before moving to Sacramento and having their third child, Chip (Frances). In 1963, the family moved to Marinwood and in 1988 they settled Novato.

In 1963, Ms. White started working for the Mill Valley School District, holding several positions including receptionist, administrative assistant to three superintendents, and finally as a business manager. Ms. White went back to school and received her Bachelor of Arts with a specially designed degree in Educational Management in 1978. In addition to her work with the school district, Ms. White was also involved in the League of Women Voters for over 50 years, and she was awarded the League's Bunny Award in 2006. Ms. White also served on the Marinwood Community Services District, cofounded the Marin Housing Council, and participated in the Novato Housing Coalition and in the Marin Environmental Housing Collaborative. She also served on the North Bay YMCA Board, and was named the YMCA's volunteer of the year in 2005. In 2008, Ms. White was named Novato's Citizen of the Year.

Beyond her incredible community service, Ms. White enjoyed spending her free time entertaining, traveling, swimming, going to the Y, watching and feeding local birds, knitting, needlepointing, calligraphy, and water color painting. Most of all, she loved spending time with her family and friends.

Ms. White was predeceased by her husband, Peter, in 2018. She is survived by her sister Cornelia Dimmitt, her daughter Cornelia and husband George, her sons Francis White and Dr. David White and David's wife Judy, and two grandchildren, Kyle White and Dr. Ashley White. While she will be greatly missed, Ms. White's legacy will live on through the indelible positive impact she had on her community and beyond.

COMMEMORATING THE KIWANIS  
CLUB OF PASADENA CENTEN-  
NIAL ANNIVERSARY

**HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 28, 2020*

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Kiwanis Club of Pasadena upon its centennial anniversary.

Kiwanis International is a volunteer-led global organization committed to service and strengthening goodwill. Since its founding in 1915, Kiwanis has grown to nearly six-hundred thousand members spanning across eighty countries.

The Kiwanis Club of Pasadena was founded in 1920 and is one of the oldest Kiwanis Clubs

in the world. Their objective is to make the City of Pasadena a better place to live and to accomplish their goals working together as a team. The club has approximately forty members and supports many organizations that help the local community. These include Union Station Homeless Services, where club members help prepare, cook, and serve monthly meals to the shelter's homeless families, Villa Esperanza Services where members assist disabled adults in the Pasadena area, through the Aktion Club, and the Salvation Army.

The club also works with local Key Clubs, which are international leadership service programs for high school students, by holding a "Career Day," allowing Key Club members to visit various businesses for a day to learn about different careers. In addition, the Kiwanis Club of Pasadena provides annual educational scholarships to outstanding students in the Pasadena area and supports the Camperships for Kids program for youth to attend summer camp.

The care, time and energy that the Kiwanis Club of Pasadena has given to the community is extraordinary and the residents of the Pasadena area have benefitted greatly. I ask all Members to join me in commending the Kiwanis Club of Pasadena upon their celebration of one hundred years of outstanding service.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH ESSAY  
CONTEST 2020 GRADES 6  
THROUGH 8

**HON. A. DONALD McEACHIN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 28, 2020*

Mr. McEACHIN. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize exemplary middle and high school students from Virginia's Fourth Congressional District who were selected as winners of the Black History Month essay contest I hosted earlier this month. I am inspired by the words of these students, and I encourage young people across our country to reflect on what this month means to them personally.

Since its creation less than 50 years ago, Black History Month has been a time to honor and recognize the remarkable achievements of the African-American community. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing these distinguished students and their accomplishments in celebration of Black History Month.

I include in the RECORD Trenton Blake's winning essay:

WHAT BLACK HISTORY MONTH MEANS TO ME

As an African American male, Black History means a great deal to me. In today's society racism impacts the lives of my people in a number of ways and for me that is very scary. Black history means to me that no matter how the world views me, I am somebody and I stand on the shoulders of those before me. I can not think of what black history means to me without thinking of the years of slavery my ancestors had to endure. I think of the world we live in, and I don't understand why racism continues to exist today. The achievements of black people compared to the many pitfalls set before us should allow people to see how strong and resilient of a people we are, instead they only

continue their attempts to destroy us and what we value and love.

I wish black history month would mean to everyone what it means to me. Black history month means to me that in times of turmoil I have the strength to rise victorious. Black history month is a time where all can reflect, not on the narrative they want us to believe in, but one that is factual and full of strength, hope and promise. It's one where Mansa Musa was King of the Mali empire in 1312 and is regarded even today as the richest man in the history of the world. Black history month means to me even as an enslaved person, Harriet Tubman led about 13 missions to help many to freedom and shared she could have freed more if they only knew they were enslaved. Black history month means to me we must pass the knowledge of the achievements of our ancestors like the establishment of what was known as Black Wall Street. Black wall street was a very prosperous and self-sufficient business district in Oklahoma where black people owned barbershops and stores, schools and even a local newspaper. Black history month means to me that I can help the advancement of the world like Dr. Gladys West who is a mathematician who grew up locally in Sutherland VA and helped with the technology used to create the GPS systems everyone uses today.

Black history month means to me it is a time where all people should be able to reflect upon the history of African Americans. This is a time where our culture, contributions, music, and arts should be celebrated as a positive influence and reviewed as leaving a positive impact on the entire world. Black history month is a time where we should be able to come together as a people and uplift one another and celebrate the many achievements of our past and the hope and realization of a rich future.

HONORING DR. JEROME L. RICE

**HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 28, 2020*

Mr. ENGEL, Madam Speaker, it is my sincere honor to recognize a long-time public servant, a beloved community leader in Coop City, and one of my good friends, Dr. Jerome L. Rice, President of the NAACP Coop City branch and a member of the Riverbay Board. Dr. Rice is moving to Florida at the end of March. He and his family will surely be missed.

Dr. Rice served over 22 years in the Armed Forces retiring with the rank of E8/First Sergeant. He has also served with the New York City Department of Correction for 25 years retiring with the rank of Captain. Dr. Rice has served as NAACP Co-op President since 2012 and has served on the Riverbay Board since 2017. In February 2020, Dr. Rice received his PhD in Criminal Justice from Walden University specializing in Social & Behavioral Science. In 2017 he was invited into the Alpha Phi Sigma Nu Chapter Criminal Justice Honor Society. In 2008 he received his MBA from Monroe College majoring in Business Management. Throughout his life he has been a long and faithful servant for the Thessalonians Worship Center, where he served as chair of the trustee board and assistant director of the food pantry. Dr. Rice is also the Past No. Commander for the American Legion Post No. 1871 where he provided various services to veterans.

In addition, Dr. Rice is also a 2019 Inductee into the New York State Senate Veterans Hall of Fame; an NAACP Silver Life Member; a recipient of the NAACP Freedom Fund Award for Community Service; a recipient of the AIM High Ambassador Mentorship Award; and was the First Elected President for the Monroe College Toastmasters Club. While serving as director of Community Relations for 100 Blacks in Law Enforcement Who Care, he had created various survival workshop designed to educate both communities and local elected officials. And if all of that wasn't enough, Dr. Rice was also a heroic 9/11 first-responder.

Madam Speaker, Dr. Rice always says, "Don't stand on the sidelines of Justice, get in the fight." I can't think of a more fitting motto for him and I want to thank him for all the work he's done to strengthen our community. We're going to miss Dr. Rice and his wonderful wife Eulalee deeply here in the Bronx, but we wish them well on their new journey.

225TH ANNIVERSARY OF MARINER'S TEMPLE BAPTIST CHURCH  
IN NEW YORK CITY

**HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 28, 2020*

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 225th anniversary of Mariner's Temple Baptist Church located at 3 Henry Street\* 12 Oliver Street (Mariners' Temple Lane) in New York City. The Church's history is deeply rooted with the history of the Nation and this year celebrates a momentous milestone.

According to history, in 1795, Henry Rutgers, a descendant of Dutch immigrants, donated land on the corner of Oliver and Henry Streets designated for Baptist worship. Located a few blocks from the first White House occupied by George Washington and his wife on Cherry Lane, the first Church at Oliver and Henry Streets was called the Oliver Street Meeting House. The early Church began as a Mission for seamen who docked at the nearby East River and the church became famous.

Mariner's Church was established as a food and shelter mission for the seamen whose hard work helped New York City develop into a HUB of commerce and culture. The church is one of the oldest sites for Baptist worship in Manhattan offering innovative ministry in response to the great influx of immigration. Mariners' Temple gained the reputation as "The Mother of Churches," launching the First Swedish Baptist Church, the First Italian Church, the First Norwegian-Danish Baptist Church, The first Lettish (Latvian) Church, the First Russian Church and the First Chinese Church as each new arrival of immigrants moved through the Lower East Side. From the 1940s to the 1970s, Mariners' Temple continued to be a spiritual center welcoming all ethnic groups in the neighborhood and establishing supportive missions and classes for Chinese, Latinx and African Americans.

Today, the church continues to be a beacon of hope for parishioners from all backgrounds. It takes the call to community engagement seriously. Mariner's Temple community is incredibly active, participating in a variety of ministries and programs. Under the leadership of

Rev. Dr. Henrietta Carter, Mariners' Temple remains committed to its missions and outreach initiatives. There is a ministry for everyone as Mariners' focuses on the ministries of Prayer, Church School/Christian Education, Evangelism, New Discipleship, Community Outreach, Communications, Sacred Arts Drama & Dance, Health, Wellness and Soul Care. Mariners' Temple is a multicultural Church utilizing small-group-driven ministry to build and strengthen the community.

Madam Speaker, as Mariner's Temple celebrates this historic milestone, its congregation can take pride in an inspiring 225 years of fellowship, worship, and service. I would like to congratulate Rev. Dr. Henrietta Carter and past and current members of the church's congregation on this joyous occasion. Mariner Temple Baptist Church embodies the values of charity, inclusion, and integrity embraced by all New Yorkers. I wish them many more years full of growth and prosperity.

RECOGNIZING THOMAS EDISON  
MIDDLE SCHOOL OF MERIDEN,  
CONNECTICUT FOR BEING  
NAMED A NATIONAL MAGNET  
SCHOOL OF DISTINCTION BY  
MAGNET SCHOOLS OF AMERICA

**HON. JAHANA HAYES**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 28, 2020*

Mrs. HAYES. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate Thomas Edison Middle School of Meriden, Connecticut for being named a National Magnet School of Distinction by Magnet Schools of America.

Thomas Edison is one of 12 schools in Connecticut and one of 142 in the country to be given this prestigious distinction. Its challenging curriculum, full engineering program, innovative technical supports, and strong family and community partnerships have resulted in high student achievement at the school.

Thomas Edison started an initiative that has provided every student with a laptop to help with their studies. That kind of investment in students and commitment to reducing disparity pays dividends—in student success.

Even with plentiful resources, success takes staff buy-in, strong leadership and tireless work. I commend the staff at Thomas Edison for their commitment to their craft and dedication to students.

But it also takes a community—parents devoted to their children's learning, and students empowered and motivated to go the extra mile. Thomas Edison has implemented a Families as Partners program to foster mutual respect and effective collaboration between families and school staff. It has also partnered with Community Health Center Inc. to provide behavioral health services and dental services at school.

This comprehensive approach to supporting students with wraparound services makes a difference. Students learn best when their physical, mental and emotional needs are met.

This week also happens to be National Public Schools week—a week when we celebrate the significant contributions and accomplishments of students, parents, educators and education advocates in our public schools.

The achievements of Thomas Edison underscore the importance of supporting robust federal investment in public education, including